AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A member~~, such as a staple or rivet,~~ for urging together two or more portions of tissue of a body which tissue portions form a wound caused by a puncture~~, in particular a puncture resulting from a catheter-based intervention,~~ and maintaining said portions together until said portions are secured together by scarring thereof, wherein said member is made of a material selected from at least one of metals, alloys and ceramic compounds thereof~~, such as oxides~~, said material being:

- a bioresorbable material which is transformable in said tissue into smaller elements~~, such as colloidal particles,~~ that remain in said body as traceable elements; and/or
- a biodegradable material which is transformable in said tissue into smaller elements~~, such as soluble salts,~~ that remain in surround tissue as fine undetectable precipitates or that dissolve and are ultimately eliminated from said body.

23. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 22, wherein said material is a metal alloy containing: a first component which covers itself with a protective oxide coat; and a second component which ensure sufficient dissolution of the oxide coat.

24. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 23, wherein the first component comprises at least one metal selected from magnesium, titanium, zirconium, niobium, tantalum, zinc and silicon and the second component comprises at least one metal selected from lithium, sodium, potassium, manganese calcium and iron.

25. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 23, wherein the components of the metal alloy are selected such that corrosion products originate therefrom in the form of soluble salts, fine particles or colloidal particles or a mixture thereof.

26. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 23, wherein the alloy contains zinc as a corrosion-inhibiting component.

27. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 26, wherein the alloy contains zinc and calcium.

28. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 27, wherein the alloy has a zinc/calcium weight ratio of at least 21/1.

29. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 23, wherein the alloy contains sodium and magnesium.

30. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 22, wherein the bioresorbable and/or biodegradable material is an alloy of zinc and titanium.

31. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 30, wherein the zinc-titanium alloy has a weight percentage of titanium of 0.1% to 1%.

32. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 31, wherein an amount of 0.1 to 2 weight% gold is added as a further component to the zinc titanium alloy.

33. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 22, wherein the bioresorbable and/or biodegradable sealing member comprises a support body made of a substantially pure first metal and a local electrode made of a second metal which is in contact with the support body to produce a contact voltage and a resulting current that leads to active degradation of the sealing member.

34. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 33, wherein the local electrode is a coat on the support body.

35. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 33, wherein the local electrode is a metal part attached to the support body.

36. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 33, wherein the support body consists essentially of zinc.

37. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 33, wherein the local electrode consists essentially of a precious metal.

38. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 34, wherein said coat is deposited by electroplating or sputtering.

39. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 22, wherein the sealing member is made of a phosphorus-containing alloy.

40. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 22, which is a hydrogen-treated alloy.

41. (Previously Presented) The member of claim 22, which is made of an alloy which during use corrodes at such a rate that gases arising during corrosion physically dissolves in a body fluid to which the alloy is exposed.

42. (New) The member of claim 22, wherein the member is a staple or a rivet.

43. (New) The member of claim 22, wherein the puncture is a puncture resulting from a catheter-based intervention.

44. (New) The member of claim 22, wherein the metals, alloys and ceramic compounds of the material of the member are oxides.

45. (New) The member of claim 22, wherein the smaller elements of the bioresorbable material are colloidal particles.

46. (New) The member of claim 22, wherein the smaller elements of the biodegradable material are soluble salts.